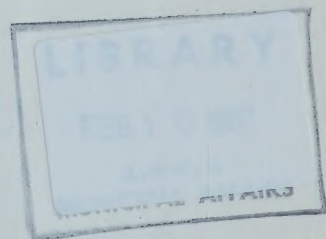


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AN INVENTORY OF
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES
PROVIDED TO
THE INDIAN AND METIS PEOPLE
OF ALBERTA

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Alberta

HEALTH AND
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
RUSSELL BANTA, Consultant

January 3, 1974

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Mr. Myron Boyce

1984

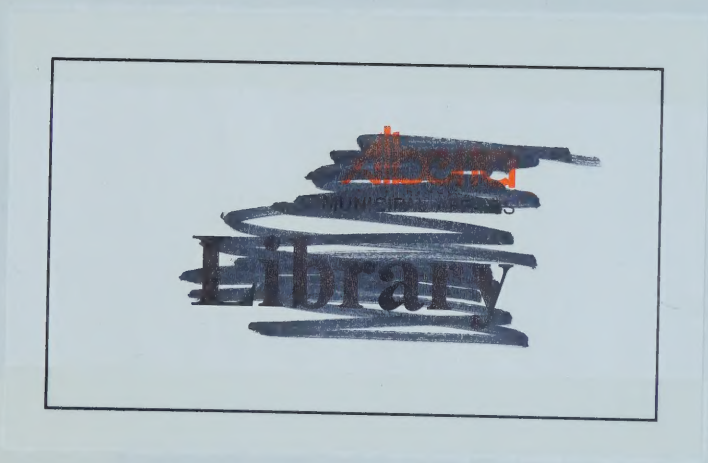


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INTRODUCTION

There are thousands of pages of studies, analysis and recommendations on the problems of native people in Alberta. In spite of considerable activity, little has been achieved.

Casualty services account for the major part of all provincial services used by the native people of Alberta. Indians are admitted to hospitals at 2.5 times the rate of non-Indians. They are committed to jails at 9 times the rate of other Albertans. Indian and Metis children account for more than 40 per cent of provincial child welfare cases. Twenty to 25 per cent of Metis families in Alberta depend on public assistance programs for their livelihood. Forty per cent of reported cases of venereal disease and a similar percentage of tuberculosis victims are native. Forty per cent of complaints received by the human rights commission are from Indian and Metis people.

The native population receives little significant benefit from development services. This year, for example, nine Metis and 36 Indians enrolled in apprenticeship training - only .5 per cent of total enrolment. A 1971 survey shows that 50 per cent of Metis children and 60 per cent of Indian children enrolled in the northland school division drop out at the end of Grade 9. Less than 5 per cent of Metis children complete Grade 12. Extension services, particularly home economists' services, are minimal in most native communities and unknown in others.

The average personal income on Alberta's Metis colonies in 1970 was \$485 compared to the 1971 provincial average of \$3,394.

There has been a great number of pilot projects, seasonal employment projects, community development projects and economic improvement projects, either directed at or intended to include development of native people.

The convenience, and at the same time, the deficiency of pilot projects such as the Slave Lake program, Newstart, L.I.P., P.E.P. and others is that no matter what the result, there is a definite beginning and end to the commitment. Total expenditures can be projected and budgeted for the duration of the project. Grand objectives, such as the one used by Newstart, "to develop, implement, and evaluate new intervention systems to improve the social and economic level of disadvantaged persons", are stated at the outset, but little attention is given to the final outcome once the project is over. Indeed, what limited evaluation is done, rarely shows any lasting or significant improvement for the people served.

The development of many short-term pilot projects is symptomatic of uncertainty as to what should be done and lack of clarity as to who should do it. Perhaps, even more dangerous is the tendency for these projects to mask the need for thorough, well managed, coordinated programs. There is also a tendency to create an additional team to implement each newly conceived project, thereby duplicating existing management and staff resources.

The importance of establishing specific, measurable objectives has been largely overlooked. There is considerable risk for governments to commit themselves to such specific objectives as decreasing by 20

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per cent the drop out rate of native children from the education system, or eliminating dysentery from the list of common childhood diseases in native communities. The cost in dollars and time for achieving such objectives may not be known, but the results, whether positive or negative, could be determined. Commitment to clearly stated public objectives is not new to government. Provincial priorities established in mental health services, services to the handicapped, and senior citizens are commitments of the type needed to attack problems of this size.

Such commitment requires steady focus on relatively clear needs of the people to be assisted. How these needs should be met, the cost and the time period required indicate a continuing series of decisions aimed at the basic objective of expanding and improving services to meet the needs. This approach is in sharp contrast to the often used design of programs for native communities where the costs, the time period and the method are set, fuzzy objectives are established and specific needs are often overlooked. Services stop when the money and time run out, not when the needs are met. The strength and effectiveness or weakness of departmental management can seldom be challenged or even assessed in programs of this kind.

The first action required by the provincial government is a firm policy position on native people before any effective attempt can be made to meet needs.

Basic policy questions include:

1. What is the provincial position on federal responsibility for direct services and the financing of indirect services to registered Indians in Alberta?

2. What is the provincial position on aboriginal rights with regard to the Metis people of Alberta, particularly relating to land tenure?
3. Are native associations to be dealt with by the province in the context of special interest groups or as the representative bodies of the native people of Alberta?
4. Is the province responsible for direct services in those areas under its jurisdiction or should authority be delegated to native organizations?
5. What kind and how strong a priority is to be given to meeting the needs of native Albertans?

There has been considerable concern expressed by several departments that effective policy and effective methods to meet the needs of native people is urgently required. Prior to the commencement of this inventory, the departments of manpower and labour, agriculture, lands and forests, health and social development, and federal and inter-governmental affairs had stated that the resolution of long outstanding policy issues and effective coordination of government-wide services were the key government problems in this area. During the preparation of this report, several additional departments, including advanced education, environment, treasury and education, expressed similar concern.

The often unrelated individual efforts of departments are quickly frustrated by lack of support from related programs under other provincial jurisdictions. The inability of advanced education to gain adequate housing for trainees is one example. The inability of the alberta housing corporation to gain resolution of land tenure policy to provide Metis housing is another.

An estimated 50 per cent of native Albertans are less than 15 years old. At the present rate of net population increase, the number of native Albertans will have doubled in twenty years time. The "native problem" is not going away. It is increasing.

This report intends to provide an overview of programs administered by provincial government agencies serving native people in Alberta. It is not a profile of all services provided to native people. The federal government provides a considerable number of services, particularly to registered Indians, which have not been included. Private organizations and municipal governments also provide services to native people.

Although the federal government programs are not included, federal expenditures have been estimated where they apply to provincially administered programs.

The content of this report is based on information provided by the individual departments and agencies. Precise costs of programs to native people are extremely difficult to obtain in most cases and impossible in others. The selected costs shown are no more than estimates intended to give a sketch of the majority of provincial expenditures related to native people.

"INDIAN" refers to all registered Indians of Alberta whether living on or off reserves. "METIS" refers to non-status Indians, and other Albertans, with significant Indian ancestry and cultural background. "NATIVE" refers to Indians and Metis.

Service Areas Where Two or More Provincial Agencies are Involved:*

1. Native cooperatives: agriculture; Indian and Metis liaison.
2. Small business management: agriculture; industry and commerce.
3. Recreation funding: agriculture; culture, youth and recreation; Indian and Metis liaison.
4. Housing: alberta housing corporation; Indian and Metis liaison; health and social development.
5. Alcoholism programs: alcoholism and drug abuse commission; Indian and Metis liaison.
6. Municipal improvement: municipal affairs; health and social development.
7. Education: education; culture, youth, and recreation; health and social development.
8. Agriculture development: agriculture; health and social development; Indian and Metis liaison.
9. School lunches: agriculture; health and social development; Indian and Metis liaison.
10. Forestry: lands and forests; health and social development.
11. Water supplies: environment; municipal affairs.
12. Employment opportunities: health and social development; manpower and labour.
13. Roads: highways and transport; Indian and Metis liaison; lands and forests.

* All the listed service areas are not necessarily areas of program overlap. In some cases, respective departments are attempting to clarify their responsibilities relating to the service provided.

Areas involving provincial expenditures for services to registered Indians:*

1. Agriculture extension services
2. Adult vocational centres
3. Community vocational centres
4. Post secondary education
5. Rural adult driver training
6. Alberta health care insurance
7. Hospital services
8. Hospital construction and expansion
9. Alcoholism programs
10. Correctional institutions and services
11. Recreation facilities and programs
12. Grade school education
13. Mental health services
14. Services to the handicapped
15. Child welfare and juvenile probation services
16. Tuberculosis control and treatment

* Services listed are those involving a net provincial expenditure regardless of cost sharing programs or federal responsibility. No attempt has been made to include any walk-in services such as social hygiene clinics or single persons hostels.

ADVANCED EDUCATION

The department's involvement with Indian and Metis people is mainly in the area of vocational training including academic upgrading, basic industrial skill training and social orientation. Programs are conducted with the cooperation of the federal government and a number of provincial government departments which act in an advisory capacity.

Approximately 1,600 Indians and Metis are enrolled annually in these programs. However, it should be noted only 45 -- nine Metis and 36 registered Indians -- are receiving any type of apprenticeship training in skilled trades. As this number represents only one-half of one per cent of all Albertans registered in apprenticeship training programs, it appears obvious Alberta's native people will have little opportunity to participate significantly in skilled trades needed for development of northern Alberta -- an area where, with proper skills, they might be expected to make an important contribution.

Winter vocational training courses are held on Indian reserves selected each year by the department of Indian affairs, with actual costs reimbursed by the federal manpower department. Last year \$40,000 was allotted for courses involving five reserves and about 100 registered Indians. This year, the amount is \$75,000.

At adult vocational centres located at Lac La Biche, Fort McMurray and Grouard, Indian and Metis trainees account for between 50 and 90 per cent of total enrolment. Total cost of operating the three centres is approximately \$3.5 million, of which Canada manpower provides about \$1.6 million in training allowances.

In addition, community vocational centres in eight small communities in the Slave Lake area have a total enrolment of 380. Ninety per cent

are native people. Total operating costs are \$830,000 -- of which \$150,000 in training allowances is provided by Canada manpower.

The department has signified its willingness to accept registered Indians in both adult and community vocational centres when the department of Indian affairs gives prior commitment to pay actual costs. However, their experience has been that the Indian Affairs budget is inadequate to properly serve these people -- with the result the province has been placed in a position of having to refuse training to registered Indians in some cases.

In conducting vocational training programs, the department has been faced with a chronic shortage of housing for trainees. This problem has been referred to the Alberta housing corporation -- with little apparent result to date.

The department of public works had a one-year expenditure last year of \$482,000 for provision and maintenance of advanced education training facilities in northern Alberta.

The department of Indian affairs reports about 300 registered Indians enrolled in post-secondary institutions in the province. No statistics on Metis enrolments are available. In any case, indications are that the number of native people attending colleges and universities in Alberta does not represent a significant proportion of the province's Metis and Indian population. It is obvious financial responsibility for registered Indians in these institutions is being shifted more and more to the province. Funds from the department of Indian affairs are provided only after other sources, including provincial bursaries and scholarships are exhausted. (A similar approach by the department of national health and welfare with regard to mental health services has been noted -- and is discussed in the section on health and

social development.)

The department conducts a rural adult driver training program which has attracted 500 trainees in six northern Alberta areas. Of these, 80 per cent are natives. Cost of the program -- \$90,000 this year -- is borne by the department, although federal financial help is being sought for future programs.

In the area of funding, the department last year provided a \$240,000 grant to Pet-Ta Pun Inc. of Lac La Biche. This year's grant of \$60,000 was made by northern development, Indian and Metis liaison, since the training component of the organization was dropped on Apr. 1, 1973.

It is difficult to assess lasting employment benefits arising from the department's vocational training program. In the Slave Lake region, the number of families receiving public assistance has dropped -- but this could be a direct result of some \$2 million in training allowances provided to people in northern communities through vocational centres and the opportunity corps.

ADVANCED EDUCATION	INDIAN		INDIAN		FIELD		FIELD		FIELD		PROV.		Fed.		PROV.		Fed.		TOTAL	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.
Vocational training on Indian reserves		40,000		70,000															40,000	70,000
Alberta vocational centres																				
- Lac La Biche, Janvier, Fort Chipewyan, Kikino	67,877	60,732	38,758	31,256					193,742	156,244									900,000	420,000
- Fort McMurray			71,450	64,305	407,123	364,268			428,550	385,695										950,000
- Grouard	100,800	54,000	101,160	81,000	403,200	216,000			404,640	324,000									774,000	911,000
Community vocational centres (Slave Lake)																				
Locations - Trout Lake, Peerless Lake, Loon Lake, Canyon Creek, Little Buffalo, Jousard, Calling Lake	160,484	26,997	203,980	44,995	321,016	54,003			408,020	90,005									562,500	747,000
Rural adult driver training																				
Locations - Wabasca, High Level, Grande Cache, Paddle Prairie, Lac La Biche, Fort McMurray	24,379	1,977	29,814		34,821	2,823			42,586										64,000	72,000
Pe-Ta-Pun Inc. (Metis)					240,000														240,000	
	354,000	184,000	445,000	292,000	1,406,000	637,000			1,478,000	956,000									2,581,000	3,170,000

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AGRICULTURE

Approximately 90 per cent of all registered Indians in Alberta live in rural areas. While precise figures on the province's Metis population are not available, it generally is assumed about the same proportion of Metis are rural-dwellers. Because of this, programs developed for native Albertans through the department of agriculture might be expected to be extensive and to have a significant effect on the life of these rural communities.

This is not the case.

Of the \$1,235,000 appropriated under rural development, approximately \$30,000 or 2.5 per cent is specifically earmarked for assistance to native Albertans. The federal government is responsible for providing development assistance to registered Indians -- but this leaves an estimated 55,000 to 60,000 rural Metis to share \$30,000. The amount can hardly be considered more than a gesture and, as might be expected, contributes little to development of Alberta's Metis communities.

Another example of token recognition of need is the department's extension services, particularly in home economics. Limited to seasonal employment programs and a \$15,000 budget from the department of Indian affairs, extension services are provided to less than a dozen native communities each year.

The department, through its cooperative activities and credit union branch, administers the Native Cooperative Guarantee Act which this year will benefit an estimated 2,200 members of native cooperatives throughout Alberta. Total loans guaranteed to private lending agencies amount to approximately \$500,000.

Under the Priority employment program in 1972 and 1973, a variety of minor extension projects were implemented. The largest of these received \$6,138 and all were on a terminal basis. In short, P.E.P. projects, while laudable in intent, have in most cases proven to be too minor in nature and too sporadic to have any lasting value in the rural community. Greater concentration of funds -- and exploration of more effective programs -- would appear to be indicated here.

The department's involvement with the Slave Lake development authority has resulted in location of a district home economist and cooperative development officer in Slave Lake. They provide normal extension services, home visitors program and management assistance to small business in the area. Total funds budgeted are \$45,000.

In the area of funding, the department, through the municipal relations branch, has made two major grants. Fifty thousand dollars was granted to the Blackfoot agricultural society in 1972 for construction of a skating arena and this year \$50,000 went to the Saddle Lake agricultural society for a similar purpose. Both reserves have been recipients of what would appear to be overlapping and disproportionate grants -- at the expense of other native communities. (Grants received through the department of culture, youth and recreation are discussed elsewhere.)

An emergency feed fund of \$10,000 is maintained for cattle cooperatives on reserves in southern Alberta.

Greater assistance to native projects through the agriculture development cooperation is under study.

AGRICULTURE	19/2/73 INDIAN		19/3/74 INDIAN		19/2/73 METIS		19/3/74 METIS		19/2/73 BOTH		19/3/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL	1973/74 TOTAL
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.		
Priority employment programs														
- Extension services to Metis colonies					6,000								6,000	
- Extension services to Bighorn & O'Chiese Reserves	6,000								4,000				6,000	
- Assist Berry Cooperative, Lac La Biche													4,000	
- Assist Bldd, Blackfoot & Piegan Cattle Cooperative Management	5,000								23,000				5,000	
- Assist Metis women in home management					5,000								5,000	
- Transportation for above programs													23,000	
Home economic programs on various Indian reserves		15,000											15,000	
Slave Lake development authority														
- Home Economist, Small Business management courses, Home Visitors program									20,600		45,000		20,600	45,000
Funding - Alberta Indian development systems (P.E.P. contract)	4,000												4,000	
Blackfoot agricultural society grant	50,000												50,000	
Saddle Lake agricultural society grant														
Emergency fund for southern reserves														
- Cattle cooperatives	10,000												10,000	
	75,000	15,000			11,000				48,000		45,000		149,000	105,000

ALBERTA GOVERNMENT TELEPHONES

Despite efforts by AGT to develop services in the north, many remote communities still are without any dependable form of electronic communication -- even for emergency use.

By 1975, AGT will have provided 66 reserves and native settlements in the province with either radio or line telephone service although a number of smaller native communities will remain isolated from contact with other parts of the province.

The following pages may help to illustrate current conditions.

Keg River	1	Multi-party service provided November 17, 1968.	Keg River	41
Utikuma Lake	3	Radio toll office at Gift Lake provided June 12, 1969. Dial exchange scheduled for late 1974 or early 1975 at Gift Lake to provide individual line and multi-party service to the area	Gift Lake	
		South-west part of colony provided with multi-party service from High Prairie May 21, 1972.	High Prairie	33
East Prairie	4	Multi-party and individual line service provided May 21, 1972.	High Prairie	24
Beaver River	7	Kikino area of colony provided with multi-party and individual line service December 17, 1967.	Lac La Biche	36
		Caslan area of colony provided with multi-party and individual line service May 14, 1973.	Boyle	35
Fishing Lake Elizabeth	10	Fishing Lake area of colony provided with multi-party and individual line service Jan. 15, 1970.	Heinsburg	25
		Elizabeth area of colony provided with multi-party and individual line service Dec. 12, 1971.	Grande Centre	35

Carajou Settlement Ft. Vermilion (Tail Cree) 187 Multi-party service provided April 13, 1970. Keg River 1

NOTE: See Metis Colony #1 (Keg River) for further services in this area.

Janvier Janvier 194 Coin radio toll office provided July 19, 1973. Janvier

Chipewyan Ft. Chipewyan 201 Individual line service provided in 201A- (Townsite) 100
201G Ft. Chipewyan townsite Sept., 19, (No service o
reserves) 14

Sunchild Sunchild Cree 202 Multi-party service provided 0'Chiese 203 Oct. 3, 1971. Sunchild 0'Chiese

Bushe River Slaves of Upper 207 Multi-party and individual line Hay River service provided Nov. 14, 1971. High Level 2

Hay Lake Slaves of Upper 209 Multi-party and individual line Hay River services provide Nov. 1, 1971. Assumption 49

Upper Hay River Slaves of Upper 212 Radio toll office provided June 7, Hay River 1963 at Meander River. Meander River

Jean D'Or Prairie Little Red River 215 Radio toll office provided Jan. 17, 1969. Jean D'Or Prairie

Eden Valley Stony 216 Multi-party and individual line service provided June 6, 1971 Longvior 7

INDIAN RESERVES	INDIAN BAND	NO.	TYPE OF SERVICE	EXCHANGE	NO. WITH SERVICE
Utikoomak Lake	Whitefish Lake	155 155A 155B	Radio toll office provided March 3, 1965. Individual line and multi-party service tentatively scheduled for late 1974 or early 1975.	Atikamag	
Fox Lake	Little Red River	162	Radio toll office provided April 1, 1967.	Fox Lake	
Boyer	Boyer River	164	Multi-party and individual line service provided December 18, 1970.	Fort Vermilion	10
Child Lake	Boyer River	164A	Multi-party and individual line service provided November 14, 1971.	High Level	6
Wabasca	Wabasca	166A 166B 166C 166D	Multi-party service provided November 14, 1969 - Magneto exchange. Dial exchange and individual line service scheduled for December 16, 1973.	Wabasca	164- (includes total area) (Reserves only 52 with Service)
Heart Lake	Heart Lake	167	Coin radio toll office scheduled for October 15, 1973.	Heart Lake	
Fort McKay	Fort McKay	174	Radio toll office provided August 10, 1966.	Fort McKay	
Gregoire Lake	Ft. McMurray	176 176A 176B	Radio toll office provided at Anzac August 1, 1966	Anzac	
Jean Baptiste Gambler	No particular band	183	Multi-party and individual line service provided December 17, 1972.	Calling Lake	8

INDIAN RESERVES	INDIAN BAND	NO.	TYPE OF SERVICE	EXCHANGE	NO WITH SERVICE
Cold Lake	Cold Lake	149A	Multi-party and individual line service provided Dec. 12, 1971	Cold Lake	11
Driftpile River	Driftpile	150	Multi-party and individual line service provided Aug. 8, 1972.	Faust	36
Sucker Creek	Sucker Creek	150A	Multi-party and individual line service provided May 21, 1972 (High Prairie) June 25, 1972 (Grouard)	High Prairie Grouard	22 -see below
Sucker Creek Freeman Halcro	Sucker Creek Grouard Grouard	150A 150B 150C	Individual line service provided in Grouard townsite. Reserves and surrounding area provided with multi-party and individual line service. Service in rural area provided June 25, 1972.	Grouard	94 (includes tot area - both on and off reserve
Swan River	Swan River	150E	Multi-party and individual line service provided Dec. 7, 1969.	Kinuso	1
Sawridge	Sawridge	150G	Multi-party and individual line service provided Oct. 2, 1970.	Slave Lake	2
Peace River Crossing	Duncan's	151A	Multi-party and individual line service provided August 21, 1966.	Brownvale	3
Horse Lakes	Beaver Board of Horse Lakes and Clear Hills	152B	Multi-party and individual line service provided March 17, 1968.	Hythe	4
Sturgeon Lake	Sturgeon Lake	154 154A	Multi-party and individual line service provided Feb. 19, 1971.	Valleyview	41

INDIAN RESERVES	INDIAN BAND	NO.	TYPE OF SERVICE	EXCHANGE	NO. WITH SERVICE
Stony	Stony	142 143 144	Individual line service provided in Morley townsite. Remainder of reserve provided with multi-party and individual line service. Service established Dec. 5, 1971.	Morley	136
Big Horn	Stony	144A	Multi-party and individual line service provided Aug. 3, 1969.	Nordegg	2
Sarcee	Sarcee	145	Multi-party and individual line service provided Dec. 15, 1968.	Calgary Oak Ridge	80
Blackfoot	Blackfoot	146	Multi-party and individual line service provided June 1, 1969.	Gleichen	86
Peigan	Peigan	147	Individual line service provided in Brocket townsite. Remainder of reserve provided with multi-party and individual line service. Service established Dec. 19, 1971.	Brocket	85
Blood	Blood	148	Individual line service provided in Standoff townsite - Dec. 19, 1971.	Standoff	28
			Portion of reserve (Moses Lake) is served from Cardston with individual line service	Cardston	12
			Remainder of reserve to be provided with multi-party and individual line service on Nov. 19, 1973.	Standoff	152 (applicants)
Cold Lake	Cold Lake	149	Multi-party and individual line service provided Dec. 12, 1971.	Grand Centre	65

INDIAN RESERVES	INDIAN BAND	NO.	TYPE OF SERVICE	EXCHANGE	NO. WITH SERVICE
Unipouheos Puskiakiwenin	Frog Lake Frog Lake	121 122	Multi-party and individual line service provided Jan. 15, 1970.	Heinsburg	27
Kehewin	Kehewin	123	Multi-party and individual line service provided March 30, 1969.	Bonnyville	16
Saddle Lake	Saddle Lake	125	Multi-party and individual line service provided July 15, 1971.	Ashmont	105
White Fish Lake	Saddle Lake	128	Multi-party and individual line service provided July 15, 1971.	Vilna	69
Beaver Lake	Beaver Lake	131	Multi-party and individual line service provided Dec. 17, 1967.	Lac La Biche	6
Alexis	Alexis	133	Multi-party and individual line service provided June 11, 1971.	Onoway	6
Wabamun	Paul	133A 133B	Multi-party and individual line service scheduled for March 11, 1974	Wabamun	
Alexander	Alexander	134	Multi-party and individual line service provided Jan. 24, 1970.	Morinville	12
Stony Plain	Enoch	135	Multi-party and individual line service provided March 7, 1971	Edmonton West Jasper Place	53
Samson Ermineskin Louis Bull Montana	Samson Ermineskin Louis Bull Montana	137 138 139B 139	Individual line service provided in Hobbema townsite and school area, remainder of reserves provided with multi-party and individual line service. Service established May 4, 1969.	Hobbema	214
Pigeon Lake	Indians of Hobbema Agency	138A	Multi-party and individual line service scheduled for March 25, 1974.	Ma-me-o Beach	

TYPE OF SERVICE

EXCHANGE

7

Muskeg	Multi-party and individual line service provided Sept. 11, 1970.	Grande Cache
Conklin	Coin radio toll office provided July 19, 1973.	Conklin
Chipewyan Lake	Radio toll office provided Dec. 28, 1971.	Chipewyan Lake
Peerless Lake	Radio toll office scheduled for Oct. 12, 1973. Existing forestry radio service.	
Graham Lake	Radio toll office scheduled for Oct. 12, 1973. Existing forestry radio service.	
Loon Lake	Radio toll office provided May 18, 1972	Loon Lake
Cadotte Lake	Radio toll office provided May 27, 1971.	Cadotte Lake
Little Buffalo Lake	Radio toll office provided May 27, 1971.	Little Buffalo
Sandy Lake	Radio toll office provided May 27, 1971.	Sandy Lake

ALBERTA HEALTH CARE INSURANCE COMMISSION

The commission provides universal coverage of basic and optional health services in Alberta. Health care insurance premiums for the majority of registered Indians in Alberta are paid by the national department of health and welfare. However, these premiums do not cover the actual costs of health care.

In 1972, Alberta implemented a policy of premium-free health care insurance coverage for all Alberta citizens over 65. Since that time, the national department of health and welfare has not paid premiums for registered Indian families in which one member is over 65 years of age.

ALBERTA HOSPITAL SERVICES COMMISSION

The commission provides grants to finance the approved costs of all general and auxiliary hospitals in Alberta. Hospital services to registered Indians, like all other Albertans, are cost-shared with the federal government under the national hospitalization plan. However, this accounts for only part of the actual cost of services. An estimated \$4,400,000 of provincial funds was required for general and auxiliary hospital services to registered Indians in 1972-73.

Statistics show the rate of hospitalization for Indians living on Alberta reserves is approximately 2.5 times that of the provincial population as a whole and that the average number of patient days per admission is 7.5 for Indian people, compared with 9.9 days for the total population.

One explanation for these differences could be that limited health services in many northern communities may cause a significant increase in hospitalization for illnesses which could be treated in the home if adequate community medical services were available.

Major increases in community health and medical services may be a less expensive alternative -- if the result is a significant reduction in the rate of costly hospital care among native people.

The federal government favours integrated health services for treaty Indians "when practical". However, national health and welfare will not commit the federal government to provide any of the capital funds required to implement an integrated service.

Of immediate concern are the Cardston and Bassano districts. A decision must be made regarding the future of the federal hospitals on the Blood and Blackfoot reserves.

ALBERTA HOSPITAL SERVICES COMMISSION	INDIAN		INDIAN		METIS		METIS		BOTH		BOTH		1973/74 TOTAL
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	1972/73 TOTAL		
Hospital & Auxiliary Services	4,362,000	4,073,000	4,967,000	4,619,000	8,880,000	7,990,000	10,090,000	9,082,000			25,305,000	28,758,000	

ALBERTA HOUSING CORPORATION

The major thrust of the Alberta housing corporation in meeting the housing needs of Alberta's native people is its \$1 million Metis housing program, launched this year through the office of northern development.

Fifty houses have been tendered at an average unit cost of \$17,500.

Concerns regarding the program are that rents will be beyond the reach of many low-income Metis families and that mass production of the units will curtail local employment opportunities in areas where they are to be installed.

No formal agreement has been reached with Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to provide federal money for the program. If agreement is reached, CMHC could provide as much as \$9 million in loans to supplement the province's \$1 million.

One specific situation requiring immediate resolution is the lack of housing for trainees attending vocational and upgrading courses at northern Alberta centres. This would appear to be an excellent project for the corporation to investigate.

In general, there is some evidence to suggest the province has not been as effective in meeting Metis housing needs as have private organizations and individual bands. Examples are a \$926,250 CMHC loan to Canative housing for Indian and Metis families in Calgary, a \$420,000 CMHC loan to the Morley Reserve for home improvement, a \$300,000 loan to the Metis Association for their winter warmth program of home improvement and an additional grant of \$352,000 for home repair projects, announced in September this year by the federal minister of urban affairs.

Now the federation of Metis settlement associations announces it will attempt to coordinate government agencies toward taking action to meet the need for housing in Metis colonies. It must be considered ironic that

a private organization sees a need to take the initiative in developing interdepartmental communication and action on a problem which is common knowledge to all agencies involved.

ALBERTA OPPORTUNITY COMPANY

Since the Alberta Opportunity Company can only make loans in cases where there is a reasonable amount of equity investment, very few native people are in a position to benefit from its services.

The limitation of the agency as an aid to development of native projects is recognized by the AOC's managing director -- and consideration is to be given to exploring possible solutions to this problem.

ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION

In the past year, the commission has attempted to focus attention on the alcohol and drug problems of native people. Through its research and evaluation section, it is working toward establishment of a routinized data and information collection and feedback system to encompass all native programs in the area of alcoholism and drug abuse.

Attempts are being made to upgrade services in response to requests from Indian bands. With respect to Metis communities which are less organized, however, there has been no direct involvement beyond a contract arrangement with native counselling services of alberta.

The federal government has not committed itself to a policy of financial assistance for alcoholism and drug abuse services to registered Indians.

Programs include:

-- an eight-patient detoxification centre at Hobbema, serving members of four bands. The centre was organized by the commission, which also trained staff and provided initial capital. Admission is voluntary and, following a three-to-seven-day stay, referrals can be made to the Henwood or Ponoka programs or to native counselling services, Hobbema. Commission staff from Red Deer region act as consultants. The commission provided a grant of \$7,350 to the centre for 1973-74.

-- Poundmaker Lodge, Edmonton, providing in-patient treatment for urban natives in an active rehabilitation program incorporating aspects of native custom, religion and culture. Commission grant for 1973-74 is \$15,000 plus an additional \$5,000 grant for a native training school at the lodge.

-- Kai-Nai Industries Ltd. counselling service. Funded by the commission, two counsellors provide assistance to employees in continuing employment and conduct drivers' courses for those convicted of impaired driving and alcohol workshops for members of the Blood reserve.

At High Level, the commission's interests will be handled through a contractual arrangement with native counselling services of alberta.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

During 1971-72 -- the most recent year for which corrections statistics are available -- 2,694 Indians and 966 Metis were admitted to provincial jails in Alberta. The total of 3,660 represents 23 per cent of all admissions in the province that year.

Further, the 2,694 Indians admitted account for nine per cent of the total Indian population of the province and contrasts markedly with the 13,200 -- or one per cent -- of the province's non-Indian population admitted during the same period.

Such disproportionate representation raises questions regarding both the administration of justice and the value of corrections services in the province. The Lethbridge area, for example, accounts for half the total number of Indians admitted to provincial jails during 1971-72. Further, during the same year, 80 per cent of those admitted to Lethbridge jail were repeaters.

Obviously, whatever corrections services are provided, they have been of little remedial benefit to the Indian people supposedly served. Since this is the case, there is little to lose through experimentation. The situation suggests new and bolder approaches to corrections services.

Reporting of Metis admissions is questionable because of lack of a precise legal definition for Metis people. Therefore, there is a possibility the figure of 966 for 1971-72 is low.

The probation counselling and parole supervision branch did not report statistics on the number of Indian or Metis people on probation in the province. The branch maintains native probation officers in areas where the native population is predominant and provides parole supervision when requested by the federal solicitor general's department.

The province will pay an estimated \$1,833,473 in 1973-74 to maintain Indians in corrections institutions, compared with \$1,678,334 for 1972-73; for Metis, the figures are \$647,108 for 1973-74 compared with \$592,271 for 1972-73.

ATTORNEY GENERAL	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL		1973/74 TOTAL	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.
Correction Institutions	1,678,000		1,833,000		592,000		647,000						2,270,000		2,480,000	

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

This newly-established department has no services specifically for native people. However, a subject which might well fall within its jurisdiction is the monitoring of trade practices in northern communities. In some cases retailers have virtual monopolies in isolated areas and residents have limited accessibility to competitive markets.

The companies branch of the department is responsible for registration of companies and societies.

CULTURE, YOUTH AND RECREATION

The department's five-year recreation facility grant program, concluded this year, involved instances of disproportionate funding -- with distribution of grants weighed heavily in favor of Indian reserves as opposed to Metis communities.

Ninety-one per cent of the \$97,000 distributed to native communities went to Indian reserves. An estimated 18,000 Indians -- or 60 per cent of the province's Indian population benefitted, as opposed to 1,000 Metis -- or two per cent of the Metis population. In fact, only two Metis colonies participated in the program.

This disparity is further exaggerated by the fact the federal departments of national health and welfare and Indian and northern affairs provide recreation grants to each Indian reserve in Alberta, presumably as part of the federal government's responsibility for registered Indians.

Under the recreation facility grant program, grants were provided on request, with the result reserves and colonies with the greatest ability to program request documents were able to obtain grants regardless of what special federal funds were already available. Thus the program had the general effect of providing grants to communities with the least comparative need and entirely missing communities with greatest need -- notably, Metis communities lacking local representation.

An instance of disproportionate funding is noted in the case of the Blackfoot Indian reserve. Between 1968 and 1972, the reserve received more than \$12,000 in capital recreation grants from culture, youth and recreation and in 1972-73, a \$50,000 grant from the department of agriculture to build an arena. Thus, on a per capita basis, provincial grants for recreation facilities for this reserve have averaged more than

\$4 per year for the past five years.

Similarly, at the Saddle Lake reserve, slated to receive a \$50,000 department of agriculture grant this year, annual per capita provincial recreation grants could reach \$5.45 for the last six years.

The department's district youth representatives do not appear to spend a great deal of time working with native youth in some communities with a high proportion of native population. An exception is the Slave Lake area which receives \$145,000 under appropriation #2811 for a variety of department programs. There is no district youth representative in eastern Alberta north of St. Paul.

The cultural development branch shortly will issue an evaluation report on whether or not its services might have any value for Metis people on colonies.

Additional culture, youth and recreation programs in native communities are terminal projects funded from summer temporary employment program, priority employment program or as part of the volunteer services program. The transitory nature of the programs and limited resources allocated to them make their value to communities questionable. An example is the hiring of one native person to act as catalyst in community affairs for five isolated native northern communities. The project is funded with \$6,000 from S.T.E.P. and P.E.P.

Greater care should be taken in choosing the types of projects to be implemented with terminal funding. Projects must be realistically within the bounds of time and funds available and should not be used as substitutes to meet on-going departmental responsibilities.

CULTURE, YOUTH & RECREATION	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL		1973/74 TOTAL	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.
- Piegan	4,780													4,780		
- Blood	4,600													4,600		
- Kikino														5,500		
	109,000													252,000		29,000

EDUCATION

A 1972 task force report -- native education in the province of Alberta -- clearly indicates that long-term remedial action on education for native children is desperately needed -- and this action implies a critical need for interdepartmental coordination of government resources, a function which doesn't exist to any useful degree at this time.

The task force reported a survey of the Northlands School Division which shows that in 1971, 43 per cent of all Metis children and 51 per cent of all registered Indian children in the division in grades one to nine, were at least one grade behind the normal pattern of one grade per year. A significant percentage was two or more grades behind.

Statistics to make an accurate comparison with the provincial average in this regard were not available but -- by way of rough comparison -- in 1959, 14 per cent of all Alberta students in grades one through nine were over normal age for their school grade. For Indian and Metis children in the Northlands School Division in 1971, the average was 49 per cent or 3.5 times the provincial average for 1959.

Some revealing statistics on drop-out rates were also given in the task force report. Again in the Northlands School Division, a survey completed in 1971 showed 36 per cent of Indian children and 28 per cent of Metis children enrolled in grade five had dropped out by the end of grade eight; 61 per cent of Indian children and 50 per cent of Metis children, by the end of grade nine.

Only 4.3 per cent of Metis children in the division -- and no significant percentage of Indian children, enrolled in grade five, complete grade 12. No comparable provincial statistics are available.

Pilot projects undertaken by the department cannot hope to solve problems such as these without drastic increases in size and scope. But they are a beginning.

In the field services branch, for instance, little can hope to be accomplished by the 2.5 consultants providing services to government, school boards and the public on subjects related to intercultural education.

Some efforts are being made through the curriculum and audio visual branches to extend existing curriculum to include aspects of native cultures. Ethnographic films are being produced in conjunction with the provincial museum and Alberta Native Communications Association at an estimated cost of \$83,000 this year -- compared with \$10,000 spent on the project last year.

Through the early childhood services branch, a new program designed to provide comprehensive health, social and educational services to strengthen the sense of dignity of the child and his family, will involve 720 native children in the 10 rural and urban communities where it is being implemented.

Appropriated for the program is \$4,750,000 -- with \$120,000 provided by the department of Indian affairs covering registered Indian children participating.

The program was developed in conjunction with the departments of culture, youth and recreation, advanced education and health and social development.

The department has provided compensatory funding of \$500,000 to school boards for specific projects designed to upgrade the quality of education in selected areas of Alberta -- with expansion of the program dependent on initial success.

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By 1971, the average cost per student year was estimated at \$846 in Alberta. There are an estimated 200 Indian children enrolled in provincial elementary and secondary schools for whom Indian affairs is not paying education costs. Using 1971 estimates, the education of these children would cost Alberta \$169,000 a year. The actual cost is somewhat greater. Indian affairs does pay education costs for 6,000 Indian children.

Draft legislation providing for Indian representation on local school boards has been in existence for at least three years, but has not been implemented at the request of the Indian association. There is concern that the association apparently is in a position to block such legislation when it is not known whether Indians in a given area wish to participate on local boards.

There has been serious concern expressed within the department that unless social and economic conditions, such as housing, nutrition and family stability improve proportionately with improved education standards, educational advantages will be lost. However, findings of the task force show only 26 per cent of native students surveyed left school for personal reasons not concerned with the school setting -- over two-thirds of the students left school because of dissatisfaction with the school system.

EDUCATION	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL	1973/74 TOTAL
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.		
2.5 Intercultural education consultants									62,500		62,500		62,500	62,500
Production of ethno- graphic film of native cultures											20,000			20,000
Curriculum extensions to include native cultures											50,000			50,000
Early childhood services											567,000	120,000		687,000
Funding - Alberta Native Communications Association									10,000		13,000		10,000	13,000

ENVIRONMENT

The major undertaking of this department with respect to native people is a \$500,000 water development program, begun this year. Drilling is being conducted to ensure adequate supplies of drinkable water for Metis communities in northern Alberta.

Although this program may bring rapid improvement to water supplies in a number of Metis communities, if wells are maintained, there has been extremely slow progress in improving contaminated or polluted water supplies in others.

For example, although a 1969 study shows Fort McKay's water supply has extreme mineral content, no alternative water supply has been provided. Also, at the community of Wabasca, the sewage outlet is located in the same lake and within 200 yards of the water supply intake pipe. Despite sporadic treatment of sewage, the dysentery rate among families using the supply indicates contaminated water is a critical problem. Only after action by the provincial board of health was there any indication this situation would be improved.

This department, in conjunction with the department of lands and forests, provided for moving of Indian graves which would have been flooded with the creation of Lake Abraham.

ENVIRONMENT	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL		1973/74 TOTAL	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.
Indian reburial - Abraham Lake	8,000		10,000										8,000		10,000	
	15,500				15,500								31,000		500,000	
Water development program - Conklin, Janvier - Various metis communities																
	24,000		10,000		16,000		500,000						39,000		510,000	

FEDERAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

This department participates in the Alberta Indian Tripartite Committee which includes the federal and provincial governments and the Indian Association of Alberta. The committee is established to act as a sounding board for government policy as it relates to registered Indians.

While intergovernmental affairs participates in and observes federal/provincial relations on subjects related to registered Indians in particular, it has not taken initiative in the development of a provincial position on federal responsibilities for services to registered Indians.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Metis Rehabilitation Branch

This branch is responsible for programs aimed at raising the standard of living of Metis people in Alberta. An estimated five per cent of the province's Metis population lives on colonies with these programs reaching approximately 3,500 Metis on the eight colonies involved. Total appropriation for the branch was \$1,002,000 in 1972-73 and \$1,025,000 in 1973-74. This year's per capita expenditure is \$293.

Programs include:

-- colony stores -- currently suffering heavy financial losses and gradually being phased out through sale to private individuals, they will cost the department \$25,000 to maintain this fiscal year.

-- municipal improvement of access roads and maintenance of garbage collection, handled through \$80,000 appropriation.

-- education assistance - a \$126,000 program to provide books, clothing, subsistence and tuition fees, it represents a duplication of services provided by Northlands School Division and the public assistance branch.

-- house building - under this program, to cost \$244,950 in 1973-74, 606-square-foot units are built at a cost of \$2,500 per unit (for material). The houses usually are overcrowded, some accommodating as many as 10 people. Because of lack of structural soundness and, in some cases, use of substandard materials, existing housing deteriorates at roughly half the rate new housing is being constructed. Because of inadequate definition of land tenure for colony members and because houses do not meet Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation structural standards, this agency does not participate in housing programs on colonies.

-- agricultural development - a nominal program only, costing \$120,600 in 1973-74, it lacks expertise required for realistic agricultural development and serves as little more than a work activity program for the majority of individuals participating. Farming accounted for 6.3 per cent of total income on colonies in 1970 -- 2.4 per cent less than in 1969.

-- water well program - a two year, \$53,000 project involving the department of the environment, it is designed to develop an adequate supply of pure drinking water and water for livestock.

-- administration of timber resources. In an effort to correct deficiencies in the program caused by lack of expertise, abdication of branch responsibility and exploitation by timber companies -- all of which have contributed to the almost total elimination of timber resources of colonies, a reforestation program was started this year along with enforcement of harvesting regulations.

-- recreation. The branch, in conjunction with the department of culture, youth and recreation and the preventive social service branch, is providing grants for construction of recreation facilities.

In the past year the department of health and social development has undertaken exploration of neglect related to Metis colonies over the past several years. Under study are ways to upgrade services for which the branch is currently responsible and the possibility of transferring programs to other government departments with the expertise and facilities to better undertake them.

-- Native school lunch program - a pilot project to provide lunches for 245 school children in four remote Metis communities and may be expanded to other communities over the next three years.

It should be noted the department of agriculture also is proposing a school lunch program in other areas of Alberta -- which could result in duplicate administrations being permanently established.

Child Welfare Branch

Although 42 per cent of all cases dealt with under the Child Welfare Act involve native children, only minor attempts to modify child welfare programs to the particular needs of native children have been made. Conventional child care institutions in particular have been shown to be of little value to these children and may cause a great deal of lasting social dislocation.

Of native cases handled by this branch, 40 per cent are registered Indians and 60 per cent Metis. The lower percentage of Indian children results from a departmental child protection policy of serving Indian children on reserves only with the consent of the department of Indian and northern affairs or the respective Indian band.

Total institutional and foster home costs for registered Indian children are an accepted responsibility of the department of Indian affairs -- although provincial social workers and administrative costs are not. Half of all child welfare costs -- with the exception of institutional and foster care mentioned above -- are reimbursed by the federal government under the Canada assistance plan.

An experimental project involving a child welfare service agreement with the Blackfoot band, begun Apr. 1, 1973, is operating satisfactorily. The band has access to all provincial child welfare resources and facilities -- with the federal government responsible for all administrative and service costs. Aim of the project is to upgrade services on the Blackfoot reserve and increase band participation and control.

The branch contracts services from Oakhill boys ranch, a private facility at Bon Accord for teenage boys. In operation nine years, the ranch offers programs which have proven particularly successful with native boys who account for an average of 15 of the 18 residents. The provincial government paid \$25,000 in 1973-74 toward cost of the program and the federal government, \$50,000.

Preventive Social Services

Programs within the jurisdiction of this branch are administered by municipal P.S.S. boards. For most programs, municipalities are responsible for 20 per cent of funding and the province, 80 per cent -- half of which is recovered from the federal government under the Canada Assistance Plan.

Programs include:

-- mother's day out, begun in the Wabasca area in 1973, to give mothers relief from child caring duties to participate in a crafts program. About 80 Metis and 20 Indian mothers participate.

-- taber drop-in centre, established as a service to transient sugar beet workers. It serves as social and recreational centre for approximately 1,200 Metis and 1,800 Indians each year.

-- homemaker services to elderly or incapacitated in their own homes. The program, budgeted this year at \$350,000, operates in eight communities with native participation ranging from insignificant in urban areas to as high as 50 per cent in rural communities such as Athabasca and Fort McMurray.

-- counselling services, provided in 13 communities at a provincial cost of \$600,000, have been used by an estimated 140 Metis.

-- parent-child development/head start program is designed to assist pre-school children in all phases of development with participation of parents. Metis participation ranges from 80 per cent in northern communities to an insignificant number in the south. Provincial

expenditure this year is \$250,000 for this program. It is logical to expect that this program, along with others run by culture, youth and recreation, will be transferred to the department of education with its early childhood services programs.

-- family life education programs designed to promote improved relationships within the family and between family and other institutions, are conducted in four communities. Metis involvement is small, except in Lac La Biche where an estimated 400 have participated over the time it has been operating.

It should be noted the department of Indian and northern affairs has provided some funds to Indian reserves in Alberta over the past two years for preventive social service programs.

Mental Health Division

Mental health services provided to native people are extremely deficient and are recognized as such in the division. There has been no special effort to meet needs or determine the extent of service needs in Metis communities.

Some attempts have been made to estimate the volume of services needed on specific reserves such as the Blackfoot reserve at Hobbema where limited service has been provided during the last year.

Since 1969, the federal government's rejection of responsibility has been a major hindrance to providing expanded services to registered Indians. Outstanding accounts for institution services to registered Indians now total approximately \$1 million. The division is reluctant to expand services on reserves until the issue of federal responsibility is resolved.

Indians and Metis served by the Alberta hospitals at Edmonton and Ponoka account for .46 per cent of the total population served.

A total of 300 Metis and Indians were served by community mental health units in five communities. They represent about 1.3 per cent of all people receiving these services.

This means, of the division's total budget of \$16.3 million, an estimated \$128,000 -- or .8 per cent of the budget is being spent on services to native people who make up seven per cent of the provincial population and who may be under the greatest social and psychological strain of any segment of the population.

In addition to a critical need for a federal-provincial solution to the issue of financial responsibility for registered Indians, modifications to existing program also may be required to effectively meet mental health needs of Alberta's native people.

Division of Services to the Handicapped

An average of 50 Indians and 65 Metis are receiving care at four provincial institutions for the mentally retarded. They represent five per cent of the total number being cared for. With no reimbursement from the federal government for services to registered Indians since 1969, outstanding accounts are now approximately \$400,000.

It appears certain that this funds problem will continue to expand along with expanded community-based services to the handicapped -- unless federal-provincial negotiation resolves the problem in the near future.

Public Assistance Branch

Provincial expenditure on social allowance program for an estimated 2,600 Metis families total \$7 million of which half will be recovered through the Canada Assistance Plan. These families may represent as much as one-quarter of the provincial Metis population.

Social allowance also is being provided to 400 family units with registered Indian status, living off the reserve. In return, the federal government, through its department of Indian affairs, is responsible to non-Indians living on reserves. This informal arrangement is proving inequitable however, since no satisfactory definition of residency ever has been developed, increasing numbers of registered Indians leave reserves and few non-Indians live on reserves, and the services of Indian affairs are not readily available in many parts of the province.

The net effect of this policy is a fragmented service which often leaves families stranded in white communities and focuses attention on the need for negotiation of a new provincial policy with the federal government on this subject.

Opportunity Corps

The Opportunity Corps was established in 1970 as a Slave Lake area special project in conjunction with the department of regional economic expansion. Now operating in 17 communities, its aim is to provide employment opportunities in the area through training and work activity programs. Of the people served by the corps, 360 -- or 85 per cent -- are native. Cost of the program this year is \$491,000, of which \$245,000 (in the form of a DREE grant) is provided by the federal government.

This program is being considered for expansion into other northern communities such as Janvier.

The actual effectiveness of the program is not clear since a considerable number of those served remain in the program for extended periods of time.

Tuberculosis Control Division

Forty per cent of new active T.B. cases recorded in Alberta last year were Indian and Metis people. The rate among Metis is between four and five times higher than the provincial rate of about 21 people per 100,000 population. Among Indians, the rate is 16 times the provincial rate. (A disparity in recording likely accounts for the difference in rates between Indian and Metis.)

Because the federal government has been trying to withdraw from financial responsibility for registered Indians receiving provincial tuberculosis services the province has had to absorb an estimated \$350,000 yearly in costs for T.B. services to registered Indians. The national department of health and welfare contends that once Aberhart Sanitorium was declared a general hospital it was no longer responsible for total costs for treatment of Indians served. The federal government does not pay any out-patient services for Indian T.B. victims.

Health Education

Health education services are not provided in Metis communities beyond those provided by public health nurses on their occasional visits. This service must be greatly improved if the disproportionately high rate of illness and death in these communities is to be corrected.

Public Communications

This service does not have any effective program of communication with the native population although it has expressed an interest in providing health and social service information to native communities, depending on the availability of adequate finances and resources.

Public Health Nursing Service

Since only 13 public health nurses work in the northern part of Alberta (in areas not included in municipal health units), some remote communities are visited only once or twice per month -- although the extreme incidence of medical problems in remote northern communities justifies a far greater level of public health care.

Although national health and welfare has a limited number of public health people in the region, many registered Indians depend on the provincial public health nurse. Infant mortality rates among registered Indians are twice that of provincial rates and 20 per cent of all deaths among registered Indians are due to respiratory diseases. Statistics for the Metis population are not available but there is no reason to assume their health is generally superior to that of the Indian population.

Continuing conflict between federal and provincial governments over provision of health services in mixed Indian-Metis communities has caused restraints on services which have victimized the native people. The two governments are now making some preliminary attempts to develop a logical health services delivery system to northern communities.

The aim of a community health worker training program developed by the department of advanced education is to have 12 trained workers ready for employment in isolated communities by June, 1974. They will give basic hygiene education and provide elementary health services.

Northern Dental Services

A volunteer dentist program has operated in northern communities for the last 15 years. Last year's budget was \$3,000. This year, a mobile

dental clinic will visit larger northern centres -- but the program will require major effort if it is to be accessible to remote communities.

Division of Social Hygiene

Forty per cent of people served by this division are natives -- although no breakdown between Indian and Metis is available. Budget is \$337,000. However, unless community health services and education programs effectively reach native people, this program cannot be expected to substantially reduce venereal diseases.

Air Ambulance

This service has recently been evaluated and a number of specific recommendations made to increase the efficiency of its operation. A significant, though undetermined, percentage of this service is to remote native communities.

Homes and Institutions Branch

The branch is responsible for operation of seven provincial child care institutions in four centres. Of the 1,380 children in care during 1972-73, 580 -- or 42 per cent -- were either Indian or Metis. (24 per cent Indian and 18 per cent Metis). These are extremely high percentages, particularly since there are few demonstrable benefits from existing institutional programs for these children.

The department of Indian affairs paid 100 per cent of costs for registered Indian children and 50 per cent of costs for Metis children were reimbursed to the province through the Canada Assistance Plan.

Single men's hostels in Calgary and Edmonton provide food and shelter to single transient men unable to support themselves. An estimated 30

per cent of those using the Calgary hostel are native. In Edmonton, the proportion is estimated at 25 per cent.

An estimated 60 per cent of women using Hilltop House -- a single women's hostel in Edmonton -- are Indian or Metis.

Funding

The only grants provided to native organizations by health and social development are to native freindship centres in seven communities. In 1973, a total of \$100,000 was appropriated. In addition, \$26,000 has been disbursed to the centre this year by northern development.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL	1973/74 TOTAL
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	TOTAL	TOTAL
Metis betterment program														
- stores (Gift Lake, Paddle Prairie, Kikino, Fishing Lake)					20,000		25,000						20,000	25,000
- Municipal improvement program (all colonies)					66,500		80,200						66,500	80,200
- education assistance (all colonies)					122,000		126,000						122,000	126,000
- power line construction (all colonies)					87,000		69,000						87,000	69,000
- house building					241,000		244,950						241,000	244,950
- Agricultural development					140,000		120,600						140,000	120,600
- Water well development					26,575		26,880						26,575	26,880
Preventive social services														
- Mothers day out, Wabasca			280				1,120							2,800
- Drop-in centre Taber			960		560		640						2,800	3,200
- Homemaker services (Ft. McMurray, Edmonton, Athabasca, Grande Prairie, High Prairie)	840	840												
Metis school lunch program (conklin, Little Buffalo, Cadotte Lake, Spathnow)					11,300	5,650	11,650	5,850					16,950	17,500
Mental health services														
- guidance clinics														
- institutions	15,000		23,000		30,000		46,000						45,000	69,000
Venereal disease control													56,120	59,340
									116,800		134,800		116,800	134,800

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (2)	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL	1973/74 TOTAL
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.		
Northern Alberta health services (Wabasca, High Level, Fort Vermilion, Fort McMurray, Conklin)	347,500	318,000	355,000	325,000	294,970	101,970	301,000	104,000	19,000		22,000		19,000	22,000
Tuberculosis control and treatment													1,062,440	1,085,000
Child care institutions													75,000	75,000
- Oakhill Boys' Ranch		50,000		50,000	12,000	12,000	12,500	12,500					169,830	177,660
- Bon Accord		33,966		35,532	67,932	67,932	71,064	71,064					60,900	62,060
- West Field, Edmonton														
- Youth Receiving Centre, Lethbridge		49,914		50,864	5,493	5,493	5,598	5,598						75,600
- Youth Assessment Centre, Grande Prairie				25,197			25,202	25,201					112,530	125,730
- Infant Medical Assess- ment Centre, Edmonton		24,700		27,598	43,915	43,915	49,066	49,066					35,700	35,529
- Youth Development Centre, Calgary		16,476		16,397	9,613	9,612	9,566	9,566					450,450	463,879
- Youth Development Centre, Edmonton		42,027		43,373	204,212	204,211	210,253	210,253					19,200	17,400
- Woodside Maternity Home, Edmonton		10,474		9,492	4,363	4,363	3,954	3,954					4,146,000	4,620,000
Child welfare services	940,000	760,000	1,070,000	800,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,375,000	1,375,000						
Single men's hostels														
- Edmonton													132,500	153,575
- Calgary													72,600	82,500
Single women's hostel													33,600	40,800
- Edmonton														
Services to the handi- capped (Alberta School Hospital, Deerhome, Eric Cormack Centre, Baker Centre)	266,640		283,705		333,360		354,695						600,000	638,400

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (3)	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL		1973/74 TOTAL	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.
Opportunity Corps (Slave Lake, Wabasca, Grouard, Kinuso, Calling Lake, High Prairie, others)	32,597	32,597	35,326	35,182	194,403	194,403	210,674	209,818					454,000		491,000	
Public assistance (Edmonton, High Prairie, Lac La Biche, Calgary, Grande Prairie, Peace River, Bonnyville, Fort McMurray, High Level, St. Paul, Athabasca, others)	367,000	433,000	380,000	520,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,500,000	3,500,000					6,800,000		7,900,000	
Municipal nursing services (Bonanza, Calling Lake, Fox Creek, Kinuso, Fort Vermilion, Worsley, LaCrete, Rainbow Lake, Smith, High Level)		30,000			31,000	32,100		33,170					62,100		64,170	
Dental services - volunteer dentist program - mobile dentist clinic (proposed)									2,000		23,100		2,000		23,100	
											121,440				121,440	
Funding - Native friendship centres (Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Pincher Creek, Fort McMurray, Peace River									80,000		100,000		160,000		100,000	
	1,970,000	1,748,000	2,140,000	1,971,000	6,212,000	4,902,000	7,010,000	5,586,000	429,000	209,000	652,000	135,000	15,470,000		17,502,000	

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

The department's involvement in construction of roads to serve Indian reserves and Metis colonies in the province was confined this year to construction of a service road to the east boundary of the Morley Reserve, north of Highway 1, at a cost of \$10,000 and an approach road of .9 miles to Paddle Prairie Metis colony at a cost of \$25,000. This road will be paved in 1974 at a cost of \$35,000.

At the request of the Indian affairs department, highways and transport has constructed bridges and provided technical assistance in bridge construction on various Indian reserves. In addition, roads have been built and maintained on reserves where these roads serve both white and native people as part of the transportation system in an improvement district.

The department provides examination services to various reserves in northern and central Alberta and to communities with high Metis populations.

The lack of extensive road building programs to serve native communities is the result of a reluctance on the part of Indian affairs to fund road construction for more remote Indian reserves -- and the department of highways and transport's position that the cost of building all-weather roads to small communities cannot be justified on the basis of numbers of people served.

However, a new provincial agreement with the federal department of regional economic expansion, is expected to provide funds for some priority projects including roads from Lac La Biche to Fort McMurray, Sandy Lake road (now under construction) and an access road to Zama Lake.

The department notes it has difficulty gaining access to rights of way for public roads through Indian reserves since these lands are not subject to expropriation law.

The high construction standards of Alberta roads mean they are excellent -- but costly. If, because of this, they cannot be justified for small, remote communities, perhaps greater consideration should be given to balancing these standards against the other economic, health and social costs borne by these communities and the province -- because of extremely limited surface access.

INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Despite a good deal of discussion in government regarding economic improvement for native communities, there appears to be little of a concrete nature being done by the department of industry and commerce in this regard. This is surprising in view of the fact that this particular department might be expected to play a major role in such development.

The department's main area of involvement with native people has been through the Slave Lake project, where it provides market research and counselling to new industries in the area.

In 1972-73, although \$100,000 was estimated for these functions through H.R.D.A., no expenditures were made. This year, \$15,000 has been budgeted.

The department's regional program has as its objective, increasing the rate of economic growth of non-urban areas of Alberta. The services of regional offices are available to native people but contact is minimal.

INDUSTRY & COMMERCE	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL	1973/74 TOTAL
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.		
Slave Lake project											15,000			15,000

LANDS AND FORESTS

The department administers a number of programs affecting Indians and Metis in the province. Involvement is mainly with land use, guide and firefighting training and road construction programs.

Lands and forests shares with other government departments the problem of reaching remote northern communities -- because of lack of access roads.

While there are forestry roads in many of these areas, their location, standards and maintenance make them unsuitable to serve communities. In winter, for instance, when roads are not needed for forest protection and administration, they remain blocked as no funds are committed for snowplowing. The department of highways and transport does not provide maintenance services either. The results are chronic confusion, with neither department accepting responsibility -- and isolation for residents of these communities who are in desperate need of access to a wide variety of government and private services.

The department encourages Metis people to consolidate areas used for residential purposes. Leases are issued for residences, gardens and grazing purposes, but, since these leases are normally for a 25-year term only, they preclude the possibility of financial assistance from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation which requires security of tenure for longer periods, in order to provide housing mortgages.

In conjunction with Indian affairs, the department assists in training programs to upgrade guiding services offered by native people. A native firefighter training and employment program is designed to develop a highly trained firefighting force in the northern part of the province. Cost of this year's program is \$350,000, with employment opportunities directly related to the severity of the fire season. An estimated 2,700

Indians and 340 Metis are involved.

Construction and maintenance of the Demarais-Sandy Lake Road, giving access to Bigstone reserve, began in 1970 and is to be completed this year. Indian affairs provided \$25,000 for the project and the department of regional economic expansion, \$110,000. The road will serve about 130 Metis and 15 Indians.

The Central Alberta land use co-operative, in a region south of Lesser Slave Lake, was originally established to train local people in forestry work -- with contracts provided by lands and forests. Timber harvesting contracts have subsequently been signed with private companies in the Slave Lake Forest area. The federal government provides 50 per cent of the \$254,000 used by the co-operative. The seasonal employment project provided employment for 19 people.

A budget of \$100,000 has been set for 1973-74 to cover a fisheries biological study as part of the Lesser Slave Lake project.

Minor activities of the department, affecting native people, include collecting and distributing hides to native handicraft groups, undertaking timber surveys on Metis colonies and negotiations with Indian bands on the development of commercial fish farming.

LANDS & FORESTS	INDIAN		INDIAN		METIS		METIS		BOTH		BOTH		19/2/73		19/3/74	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
Native firefighter training & employment	1,067,520		311,360				38,640						1,200,000		350,000	
Native firefighter recognition program			122,400				13,600								136,000	
Desmarais-Sandy Lake road construction											55,000	80,000			135,000	
Central Alberta land use cooperative	29,700		57,000	57,000	29,700		57,000	57,000					59,400		228,000	
	1,097,000		491,000	57,000	162,000		109,000	57,000			55,000	80,000	1,259,000		849,000	

MANPOWER AND LABOR

A variety of provincially and federally-funded seasonal employment programs continues to be the main source of employment for many of the province's native people. Unfortunately, the temporary nature of these projects cannot be considered a reliable source of income for any significant period of time.

An exception is the department's manpower mobility program, designed to assist families in the Slave Lake area to make successful transitions from rural communities to permanent jobs in new industries in Slave Lake. Priority is given to Metis people since Indian affairs has relocation officers in the area to serve registered Indians. The provincial government is providing \$37,500 for the program in 1973-74 with the federal government providing a D.R.E.E. grant of \$37,500. An estimated 800 Indian and Metis are involved.

A multi-departmental approach to the problems of continuing employment of native people is being tried in the case of the Syncrude development. The Northeast Alberta manpower development committee has been set up to ensure local residents have a chance to take advantage of expanding job potential and to ensure a trained native labor force is available to participate in plant development and operation. Success of this effort cannot be measured yet -- although the fact that only nine Metis and 36 Indians currently are in apprenticeship training in the province is not an optimistic indicator of extensive native participation in major industrial projects for some years to come.

Other employment programs include:

-- summer temporary employment program under which seven projects were either directly or indirectly related to the native population at a

total cost of \$44,000;

-- priority employment program, providing direct service to five native communities with total expenditures in 1972-73 of \$63,000 and 1973-74 of \$38,000.

-- local initiatives program, federally funded and coordinated through provincial manpower and labor, under which 39 native projects were undertaken in 1972-73 at a cost of \$1.7 million.

The human rights commission, which reports 40 per cent of its complaints are from Indians and Metis, provides education programs designed specifically for native people. The commission's total budget for 1973-74 is \$200,000.

MANPOWER & LABOUR (2)	1972/73 INDIAN		1973/74 INDIAN		1972/73 METIS		1973/74 METIS		1972/73 BOTH		1973/74 BOTH		1972/73 TOTAL		1973/74 TOTAL	
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.				
Elizabeth colony play school (Culture, Youth and Recreation)							900								900	
Local Initiatives Program- fencing community pastures, East Prairie metis colony		34,752											34,752			
Development of reserve resources, Sturgeon Lake band	81,416												81,416			
Goodfish Lake craft development projects	11,528												11,528			
Goodfish Lake	100,258												100,258			
Blood reserve cleanup and repair, Cardston																
Boyscouts of Canada: assistance in group organization, Red Deer	18,246												18,246			
Goodfish Lake development association	183,691												183,691			
Goodfish Lake																
Paddle Prairie recreation committee					9,126								9,126			
Paddle Prairie					37,793								37,793			
Big Prairie community maintenance, Big Prairie																
Piegan band housing repairs, Brocket	36,504												36,504			
Stony cultural education program, Morley	24,336												24,336			
Gift Lake L.I.P. Program, High Prairie					44,015								44,015			

MINES AND MINERALS

This department has no programs specifically related to native people although it does assist, in a minor way, in securing Crown mineral rights to encourage petroleum drilling on Indian reserves.

It has been indicated by this department that it may be worthwhile for the government to undertake comprehensive geological surveys of existing and potential industrial minerals and coal on Metis lands in Alberta.

The actual benefit of such surveys to the Metis people is questionable however, as illustrated by the long standing dispute between the existing Metis colonies and Alberta over the disposition of royalties from petroleum already extracted from colony lands.

The colonies attempted to take their case to court several years ago, under the previous administration. It was dismissed on legal technicalities, but no resolution has been reached between the colonies and the province to date. Legal action is currently being recommended to cabinet.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Because this department provides general municipal administration of various improvement districts in Alberta in which a high proportion of population is Metis, it is in an ideal position to assist unincorporated native communities in northern Alberta to develop practical forms of local representation. However, there is no evidence of significant action by the province toward realizing this objective.

The government has shown little capacity toward working with local people in unorganized communities -- with the result provincial resources often go to organized Indian bands which already receive federal assistance rather than to Metis communities which have no representative structure.

Individual local committees to advise or administer government-sponsored programs or projects are rarely coordinated resulting in conflict and development of competitive factions which divide rather than unify the community. A central governing body is the obvious answer to these problems.

Through the field services branch of the department, funds for the development of potable water supplies in 10 northern Alberta communities have been provided. The now defunct northern Alberta development council also contributed to the total cost of \$750,000.

Municipal affairs has been participating in the Slave Lake project by providing a resource inventory of the area and development of a regional plan.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS	INDIAN		METIS		BOTH		TOTAL			
	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.	Prov.	Fed.		
Slave Lake project					40,000		15,000		80,000	30,000

OFFICE OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

The office of northern development is responsible for planning and monitoring services, programs and policies which affect residents of northern Alberta. Since the majority of Alberta's native people live in this area, the office obviously has major involvement with Indian and Metis people.

Its functions are divided between the newly-formed northern development group and the Indian and Metis liaison group.

The northern development group, established in September, 1973, is a research and planning agency concerned with government and other programs for economic and social development in an area of Alberta north of Highway 16. It will provide support services to the recently established northern development advisory committee which will function as a forum for northern issues.

The group is presently involved in: drafting a native policy statement and developing policy guidelines for provincial programs in northern Alberta; working with the department of intergovernmental affairs and the federal department of regional economic expansion to reach a socio-economic development agreement for northern Alberta; and outlining a two-year research program dealing with housing, health, education, legal systems, transportation and economic opportunities, local government arrangements, and economic and social programs for non-status Indians in the Grande Cache area and other northern communities.

A number of comprehensive reports covering many of these same areas of research has been published recently and therefore the possibility of costly duplication of material exists.

For example, more than 1,200 pages of information, analysis and recommendations is contained in the following: Native Education in the

Province of Alberta, (1972); Community Opportunity Assessment: Metis of the Lac La Biche Area (1967); Socio-Economic Survey of Isolated Communities in Northern Alberta (1970); B-12 Plan: An Outline for Rural Development in Alberta's Census Division 12 (1968); B-15 Plan: An Outline for Rural Development in Alberta's Census Division 15 (1969).

Prime function of the Indian and Metis Liaison Group is allocation of grants to native organizations and organizations providing services to native people. This year, these grants total \$900,000, distributed or appropriated to 20 organizations. Half of these grants were provided for activities normally under the jurisdiction of other government departments. These include recreation and cultural activities, co-operatives, counselling services, school lunch program and road repairs.

This raises a question as to whether government should make grants to organizations which, in turn, use the money to fund services for which government is already responsible. In the past, the result has often been duplication of programs, conflict among competing groups and withdrawal of government responsibility for providing direct services.

New provincial policy guidelines are needed to determine whether the source of funding is to be the provincial agency responsible for related services -- or a centralized granting agency.

Government departments are confused as to the status of the Indian Association of Alberta and the Metis Association of Alberta. Does the provincial government recognize these organizations as representative bodies of the Indian and Metis people -- or simply as special interest groups?

This lack of clarity continues to cause problems when for example, an Indian band wishes to utilize provincial services but the Indian association takes the position the federal government must provide services to Indians.

The Indian and Metis liaison group co-ordinates government services in the community of Janvier and participates in the Alberta Tripartite Committee -- a group of federal and provincial government and Indian Association representatives, who discuss policy and make recommendations relating to Alberta Indians.

